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Validity Study of NIE 11-5-55:

Air Defense of the Sino-Soviet Bloc, 1955-1960

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We have examined the future projections set forth in NIE 11-5-55, and find them to have been generally valid. Evidence accumulated over the two-year period since completion of the estimate indicates that, as predicted, Soviet air defense programs have in fact emphasized the development and production of air defense guided missiles, improved fighter aircraft, and improved radar equipment. While more than half the period covered by NIE 11-5-55 is still in the future and therefore cannot be assessed as to validity, our present estimate of Bloc air defense trends over the next several years remains in close agreement with that made in 1955.

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